

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method for creating a business process model, the method comprising the steps of:

defining an activity state, the activity state corresponding to a human-based or manual step; ~~and~~

identifying one or more performers for the activity state; and

designating the activity state as reassignable to indicate that the activity state may be moved between performers.

2. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising the step of defining reference data, the reference data being information that is to be made available to the performers of the activity state.

3. (Original) A method as recited in claim 2 wherein the reference data is made exclusively available to the performers of the activity state.

4. (Original) A method as recited in claim 2 wherein the reference data is also made available to performers of a second activity state.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 1 wherein the business process model is created using ~~UML (Universal~~ Uniform Modeling Language [D]] constructs.

7. (Currently Amended) A method for providing a ~~BPM~~ business process management system, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving an event;

causing a business process object to transition to an activity state corresponding to the event;

identifying one or more performers for the activity state; ~~and~~

creating a task for each performer; and

waiting for each task to be completed within an allotted time period.

8. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 7 ~~further comprising the steps of:~~

~~waiting for each task to be completed; and~~

wherein if the allotted time period expires causing the business process object to transition from the activity state.

9. (Original) A method as recited in claim 7 further comprising the steps of providing each performer with reference data for the activity state.

10. (Original) A method as recited in claim 9 wherein the reference data is made exclusively available to the performers of the activity state.

11. (Original) A method as recited in claim 9 wherein the reference data is also made available to the performers of a second activity state.

12. (Original) A method as recited in claim 9 further comprising the step of retrieving modified reference data from one or more of the performers of the activity state.

13. (Original) A method as recited in claim 12 further comprising the step of conditionally selecting a transition out of the activity state based on the retrieved modified reference data.

14. (Original) A method as recited in claim 7, further comprising the steps of:
receiving a second event; and
applying the second event to the activity state only if the event is targeted to the activity state.

15. (New) The method as recited in claim 12, further comprising:
selecting modified reference data made by at least one performer and merging it with the associated business process object.

16. (New) A method for creating a business process model, the method comprising the steps of:
defining an activity state, the activity state corresponding to either an automated step or a human-based step; and
if the activity state is defined as an automated step, performing the activity to be achieved is the step, and
if the activity state is defined as a human based step, identifying one or more performers for the activity state.

17. (New) A method of providing an automated business process model in combination with human based events, the method comprising the steps of:
receiving a event;
causing a business process object to transition to an activity state corresponding to the human based event;
identifying one or more performers for the human based event; and
creating a task for each performer, wherein each performer can trigger additional events as a result of task operation, as needed.